Application No. 10/631,920 Reply to the Notice of Appeal filed August 1, 2005

Amendments to the Drawings:

The attached sheet(s) of drawings include changes to Figures 3 and 5. These sheets, which includes Figures 3-5, replace the original sheets including Figures 3-5.

Attachment: Replacement Sheet(s)

REMARKS

Claims 8-15 and 19-26 will be pending upon entry of the present amendment. Claims 8, 10, 11, and 14 have been amended. Claims 1-7 and 16-18 are cancelled, and new claims 19-26 are herewith submitted.

Applicants thank the Examiner for indicating the allowability of the subject matter of claim 14. Accordingly, new claim 19 is drawn generally along the lines of allowable claim 14, including the main subject matter of the claims from which it depends. Claims 19 should therefore be allowable.

The Examiner has objected to Figures 3 and 5, indicating that these figures are not in agreement. Applicants respectfully traverse the objection, but have amended these figures to clarify the structure of the retention post 58. In Figure 3, the retention post 58 has been moved away from the second side 44 of the handle, providing a better view of the base 68 and neck 70. Figure 5 has been amended to show in hidden lines the end portion of the retention post 58. Additionally, the specification has been amended to reflect the changes to the figures. No new matter has been added with these amendments to the figures and specification.

Claims 1-13 and 15-18 have been rejected under 35 USC §102(b) as being anticipated by Korb et al. (U.S. 4,918,820). Applicants traverse the rejection.

Amended claim 8 recites, in part, "a blade configured to rotate between an open position and a closed position and having a tang a tang with an inlet including a slot terminating in a receptacle, the blade being removably secured to the handle." Korb fails to anticipate at least this limitation. Korb employs a hole in the blade which receives a pin 36. There is no teaching of an inlet, a slot, or a receptacle, as recited in claim 8. Accordingly, claim 8, together with dependent claims 9-15, is allowable over Korb.

The rejections of claims 1-7 and 16-19 are moot inasmuch as these claims have been cancelled.

New claims 20-26 are submitted herewith and believed to be patentable over the art of record, including the art cited in the present IDS. The features of each of claims 20-26 are not found in or obvious from the art and allowance of these claims is therefore requested. Claims 20-26 are fully supported by the specification and figures.

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All of the claims remaining in the application are now allowable. In the event the Examiner finds minor informalities that can be resolved by telephone conference, the Examiner is urged to contact applicants' undersigned representative at (206) 694-4848 in order to expeditiously resolve prosecution of this application.

The Director is authorized to charge any additional fees due by way of this Amendment, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-1090.

Respectfully submitted,

SEED Intellectual Property Law Group PLLC

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HHB:wt

Enclosures:

Postcard
Request for Continued Examination

2 Sheets of Replacement Drawings (Figures 3-5)

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